

Florida Courts Technology Commission Conference Call Summary

A meeting of the Florida Courts Technology Commission was held via teleconference on September 17, 2018. The meeting convened at 12:00 p.m., Chair Judge Lisa T. Munyon presiding.

Members of the Commission in attendance

Judge Lisa T. Munyon, Chair, 9th Circuit

Judge Martin Bidwill, 17th Circuit

Judge Terence Perkins, 7th Circuit

Judge Ronald Ficarrotta, 13th Circuit

Sandra Lonergan, TCA, 11th Circuit

Matt Benefiel, TCA, 9th Circuit

Noel Chessman, CTO, 15th Circuit

John M. Stewart, Esquire, Vero Beach

Lonn Weissblum, Clerk of Court, 4th DCA

David Ellspermann, Clerk of Court, Marion County

Scott Ellis, Clerk of Court, Brevard County

Judge Ross Bilbrey, 1st DCA

Judge Josephine Gagliardi, Lee County

Judge Scott Stephens, 13th Circuit

Judge Stevan Northcutt, 2nd DCA

Jon Lin, TCA, 5th Circuit

Christina Blakeslee, CTO, 13th Circuit

Laird Lile, Esquire, Naples

Elisa Miller, Akerman LLP

Karen Rushing, Clerk of Court, Sarasota County

Leslie Powell-Boudreaux, Legal Aid Services of North Florida

Members not in attendance

Judge Robert Hilliard, Santa Rosa County

Mike Smith, CTO, 4th Circuit

Murray Silverstein, Esquire, Tampa

Tanya Jackson, PinPoint Results

OSCA Staff in attendance

Roosevelt Sawyer, Jr.

Kristine Slayden

Raja Komuroji

Kelsey Harper

Alan Neubauer

Hetal Patel

Lakisha Hall

Other Attendees

Judge Elijah Smiley, Chief Judge, 14th Circuit

Melvin Cox, Director of Information Technology, Florida Court Clerks and Comptrollers

AGENDA ITEM I. Welcome

Judge Munyon welcomed the commission members and other participants to the call.

AGENDA ITEM II. Roll Call

Lakisha Hall called roll and noted a quorum was present.

AGENDA ITEM III. Recommendations from the Judicial E-Filing Workgroup

Judge Munyon expressed her appreciation to the Judicial E-Filing Workgroup and the Office of the

State Courts Administrator's staff for examining each area Justice Labarga charged the workgroup with and developing recommendations to submit to the Supreme Court.

a. Judge Ficarrotta said the Processing Proposed Orders in Court Sub-workgroup was tasked with making recommendations on how orders prepared in court will be handled. The sub-workgroup had several goals: 1) provide judges on the bench the capability to apply judicial e-signatures to orders and to electronically file orders from within the local Court Application Processing System (CAPS) that are prepared in court by the judge/case manager, the attorney, or, if available, a clerk using self-populating templates, 2) the development of the technology to review, sign and distribute electronic orders generated in court should be given the highest priority and started as soon as possible, 3) include self-population of standardized forms, batch signing, and automated distribution and allow for e-orders to be transmitted to support automated ingestion into the local clerk's case maintenance system (CMS), 4) recommend delivery to the clerk's CMS would be at the discretion of the court through CAPS or the Portal, and 5) commit to thoroughly reevaluate and modify these processes and workflows for exclusively filing electronic court orders.

Motion to accept the recommendations from the Processing Proposed Orders in Court Sub-workgroup.

MOTION OFFERED: Laird Lile

MOTION SECONDED: Sandra Lonergan

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. Judge Perkins said the Strengths and Weaknesses of Processing Proposed Orders via the Portal versus CAPS Sub-workgroup was tasked with determining the best way to receive and distribute orders and other materials from the court system through the Portal versus CAPS. The sub-workgroup recommends using the best capabilities of both, i.e., use the Portal on the front-end to get information into the court, use CAPS to access and process the information and use the Portal to distribute the orders.

Motion to accept the recommendations from the Strengths and Weaknesses of Processing Proposed Orders via the Portal versus CAPS Sub-workgroup.

MOTION OFFERED: Judge Terence Perkins

MOTION SECONDED: Judge Josephine Gagliardi

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

c. Judge Smiley said the Anticipated Resources Needed to Implement Judicial E-Filing Sub-Workgroup was charged with submitting a report to the Trial Court Budget Commission (TCBC) on the anticipated resources needed to implement judicial e-filing and develop cost estimations for such. On August 28, 2018, the TCBC considered the sub-workgroup's recommendations for implementing judicial e-filing, including the resources needed and voted to endorse the cost estimations. The cost estimations were gathered from surveying the trial court technology

officers. Kris Slayden briefly went over the cost estimations. It is estimated to cost approximately \$5,771,466 to implement judicial e-filing through CAPS. The estimations were based on circuits that currently use CAPS. There was an understanding that any expansion in CAPS would require additional funding when the circuits can accommodate CAPS, so the \$5,771,466 does not represent the total cost in the future to achieve this functionality. However, some circuits indicated that the in-house systems or the vendor provided systems would be able to implement this functionality at no cost. Some circuits only require funding for additional staff to support the functionality. Judge Perkins asked what is the chance the technology request is going to make it to a legislative budget item. Ms. Slayden said this issue was presented to the TCBC who is in charge of developing recommendations to the Supreme Court for trial court legislative budget requests. The TCBC decided to forego including this issue and recommended an employee pay request. The Supreme Court is the ultimate decider on whether this goes forward as part of an LBR this year.

Motion for Judge Munyon, on behalf of the Florida Courts Technology Commission to forward the recommendations from the Judicial E-Filing Workgroup to the Supreme Court.

MOTION OFFERED: Judge Terence Perkins

MOTION SECONDED: Judge Josephine Gagliardi

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Jon Lin said he is concerned with the effect judicial e-filing will have on case weights and the judges' time for these additional in-court processes during this transition. Judge Munyon said she has had that concern as well. Producing orders will impact judges' time when they are in court. It will take time getting used to the electronic record.

Clerk Ellspermann and Laird Lile said they are encouraged by the workgroup's work in relation to standardization and expressed their appreciation.

AGENDA ITEM IV. Next Steps

Roosevelt Sawyer, Jr. said OSCA staff will follow up with Judge Munyon on the approvals by the FCTC and prepare a packet for submission to the Supreme Court.

AGENDA ITEM V. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn the FCTC meeting.

MOTION OFFERED: Clerk David Ellspermann

MOTION SECOND: Sandra Lonergan

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY